The Orville H. Schell, Jr. Center for International Human Rights

KIRBY SIMON SUMMER HUMAN RIGHTS FELLOWSHIPS
SUPPORTED BY THE ROBINA FOUNDATION

DUE MARCH 18, 2022

The Orville H. Schell, Jr. Center for International Human Rights provides Kirby Simon Fellowships to enable students to spend all or part of the summer doing international human rights work abroad or in the United States. The Fellowship allows Yale students with an interest in human rights to gain practical experience in the field, undertake independent research on human rights topics, or have an intensive learning experience on a human rights issue of interest to them. At the same time, Summer Fellows contribute – through advocacy or scholarship – to the work and development of the international human rights movement.

ELIGIBILITY: Who is eligible to apply for a Kirby Simon Fellowship, and what experiences will the Fellowship cover?

- **Who:** SPIF-eligible first- and second-year law students and undergraduates in the Multidisciplinary Academic Program for Human Rights (MAPHR) are eligible for funding to cover both living and travel expenses. Graduating law students, law students who are not SPIF-eligible, and non-law students may apply for summer travel grants but are not eligible for the living stipend.

- **What:** Summer work experiences, independent research, or intensive learning experiences in international human rights.
  - **Minimum length:** Fellowship experiences must last a minimum of 6 weeks. Students may split the summer, but the six-week minimum generally applies to each location.
  - **Maximum length:** Students may receive a maximum of 12 weeks’ living support from all law school sources. You may split the summer between human rights work and domestic public interest work, and you may participate in the South American Linkage program, but you will be able to receive only 12 weeks of support in total for these activities.
  - **Maximum funding:** Law students receiving Kirby Simon Fellowships may earn a maximum of $8,000 from all summer activities. This total includes all sources of funding for the proposed internship or project and any income earned or funding awarded for other internships or jobs.

- **Where:** Kirby Simon Fellowships may cover human rights work abroad or in the U.S. For students who split the summer between fellowship sites in two locations, funding will generally cover travel to one work location only.

As of fall 2021, students can travel internationally for fellowships, provided that they follow Yale’s procedures for safe travel during COVID-19. Resources on current travel policy are available here: https://world-toolkit.yale.edu/International-Forum-2021-22

APPLICATION PROCESS:

The Kirby Simon application for summer 2022 is due on March 18, 2022.

- **Law students** who wish to receive both the travel grant and living expenses must:
  - Submit Part I of the SPIF application (confirming SPIF eligibility) but **DO NOT** need to submit Part II of the SPIF application. Contact the Financial Aid Office with any questions about SPIF.
  - Meet with Jim Silk, Hope Metcalf, or Kristine Beckerle. Please use the office hours application on the Inside Page to schedule appointments. If you cannot meet during their scheduled hours, please email barbara.mianzo@yale.edu to arrange another time. You must meet with Jim, Hope, or Kristine before submitting the Kirby Simon application.
Complete the Kirby Simon application available on the Schell Center’s website and send it to humanrightsfellows@yale.edu.

- Undergraduate MAPHR students will receive an undergraduate-specific application form by email. If you need another copy of the form, email madeline.batt@yale.edu.
- Any student applying solely for the travel grant should complete the Kirby Simon application available on the Schell Center’s website and send it to humanrightsfellows@yale.edu.

Nondiscrimination Policy: To receive funding, students must have their host organizations certify compliance with Yale Law School’s nondiscrimination policy. See instructions on confirming organization compliance.

While the deadline is March 18, you are encouraged to submit your application as soon as you are able. If you have not finalized your summer plans by March 18, please submit an application with tentative plans, so that we have an estimate of how much funding we will need. Students may amend their applications after the final deadline but should keep in mind that funding will likely be delayed as a result.

FELLOWSHIP OBLIGATIONS:

Summer Fellows participate in a brief orientation session in the spring before their fellowship begins. After completion of their summer, Fellows submit a written report and attend a gathering to share their experiences with each other. Returned Summer Fellows also participate in a number of events that allow them to discuss with the Yale community the issues raised by and the insights gained from their fellowship experiences.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING INFORMATION:

Travel: Your travel grant will be based on the region of your destination. The amount for each region should be adequate to cover your round-trip travel from New York to your fellowship site. It is not designed to include internal travel within the country during the period of your fellowship. If the cost of traveling to and from your fellowship site significantly exceeds the amount set for your region, you may request consideration of an adjustment to your grant.

Travel-Related Medications/Inoculations and Visas: You will receive separate reimbursement for all required inoculations, preventative medications (does not include regular medication unrelated to preventative requirements for your fellowship site) and visas. You must determine whether you need a visa for your destination or destinations. The following State Department link is a good starting point for information about visa requirements: https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas.html.

All receipts should be submitted before you leave for your fellowship and must show the type of medication or inoculation received. The Schell Center will cover a maximum of $750 for required preventative inoculations, medications and visas.

Living Stipend (SPIF): The living stipend portion of the Kirby Simon Fellowship is the equivalent of the SPIF weekly stipend. Grants for living expenses will be $666.66 per week for a maximum of 12 weeks.